

NEWS RELEASE

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Grand Jury Charges Champaign Man with Distribution of Crack Cocaine

Springfield, IL- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury returned an indictment today charging Samuel N. Robinson, age 31, of 2812 Lawndale Street, Champaign, Illinois, with two counts of distribution of five grams or more of crack cocaine. The indictment alleges Robinson distributed the cocaine in Champaign county on two occasions: October 12 and October 19, 2006.

Robinson was arrested on November 30, 2006, and charged in a federal criminal complaint. The affidavit filed in support of the complaint alleges Robinson sold a total of 11 grams of crack cocaine in small bags to another individual on October 12, 2006 for \$500.00. On October 19, 2006, in a second transaction recorded on videotape by law enforcement agents, Robinson allegedly sold approximately 23 grams of crack cocaine to another individual for \$1,000.

The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Urbana and Champaign Police Departments are conducting the case investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Eugene L. Miller.

On December 4, 2006, U.S. Magistrate Judge David G. Bernthal ordered Robinson be detained in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending trial. If convicted, the statutory penalty for the offense is a minimum five years in prison to 40 years imprisonment; if a defendant has one or more prior drug convictions, the statutory penalty is a mandatory minimum of 10 years to life imprisonment.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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